

generating a log file of the monitored data by encoding the monitored data and storing the encoded monitored data into the log file; and

creating a message of the monitored data by reading the encoded monitored data from the log file and decoding the encoded monitored data, and communicating the message of the monitored data by a unidirectional communication without requiring input from a device to which the message of the monitored data is communicated.

25. (Amended) A computer program product comprising:

a computer storage medium and a computer program code mechanism embedded in the computer storage medium for causing a computer to monitor a user's usage of an interface of a target application, the interface comprising a plurality of operations to be selected by a user, comprising:

a first computer code device configured to monitor data of selecting of the plurality of operations of the interface by the user, and to encode and store the monitored data into a log file;

a second computer code device configured to receive the log file of the monitored data, to decode the stored encoded log file, to create a message of the monitored data, and to then communicate the message of the monitored data by a unidirectional communication without requiring input from a device to which the message of the monitored data is communicated.

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the following comments and as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-32 are pending in this application. Claims 8, 16, 24 and 32 were objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.75(c). Claims 1-32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. patent 6,018,619 to Allard et al. (herein "Allard").

Addressing first the objection to Claims 8, 16, 24, and 32, that objection is traversed by the present response.

The above-noted claims are believed to be proper multiple dependent claims and are believed to refer to other claims only in the alternative. For example, Claim 8 recites "a system according to *any one of* Claims 1-7" (emphasis added); the other Claims 16, 24, and 32 recite similar limitations. The noted language is believed to clearly indicate the claims in the alternative. Thus, Claims 8, 16, 24, and 32 are believed to be proper.

Addressing now the rejection of Claims 1-32 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Allard, that rejection is traversed by the present response.

It is initially noted that each of independent Claims 1, 9, 17, and 25 is amended by the present response to clarify features recited therein. Specifically, each of those claims now clarifies that the communication operation is "by a unidirectional communication without requiring input from a device to which the message of the monitor data is communicated".

The claims as currently written are directed to a system, method, or computer program product that includes an interface with a plurality of options to be selected by a user. The user's selection of those plurality of options is monitored, encoded, and stored into a log file. A communicating device receives the log file of the monitored data, decodes the stored encoded log file, creates a message of the monitored data, and communicates that message of the monitored data by a unidirectional communication without requiring input from a device to which the message of the monitored data is communicated. That is, in the claimed

invention the destination device to which the monitored data is to be communicated does not need to establish a prior connection to the communicating device, nor does that destination device need to provide any instructions for authorization of the monitoring operation.

The subject matter added to the claims is fully supported by the original specification, for example in Figures 12A and 12B. In those figures it is clear that the monitoring block 1300 sends usage data to the sending block 1600 without requiring any input from a device to which the sending block 1600 ultimately sends the monitored data.

The above-noted operations recited in the claims as currently written clearly distinguish over the teachings in Allard.

Allard is directed to a method for tracking usage patterns of users of hyper-media systems such as on the World-Wide-Web (WWW). In order for the system of Allard to properly operate, a client system server (i.e. the destination device to which the tracked data is to be sent) must be connected at the time of an initial session beginning. That operation is evident for example in Figure 3 of Allard in which step 54 monitors a session beginning event, and when a session beginning event is detected, contact with a server is initiated in step 60. Then in step 64 the server (i.e. the destination device) must make an acknowledgment. Thus, in Allard before any monitoring operation can be executed, contact with a server must be initiated, and a server acknowledgment, i.e., an input from the destination device server, is then required. From such an operation it is clear that Allard requires a client system connected to a server destination device through a bi-directional communication connection.

The claims differ from such teachings in Allard as in the claims as currently written there is no bi-directional communication required to communicate the message of the monitored data. That is, in the claims the communication of the message of the monitored


data only needs a unidirectional communication without requiring input from a device to which the message of the monitored data is communicated.

In such ways, the claims as currently written clearly distinguish over the teachings in Allard.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 9, 17, and 25 to read as follows:²

1. (Amended) A system comprising:

an interface of a target application, the interface comprising a plurality of operations to be selected by a user;

a monitoring device configured to monitor data of selecting of the plurality of operations of the interface by the user, and to encode and store the monitored data into a log file;

a communicating device configured to receive the log file of the monitored data, to decode the stored encoded log file, to create a message of the monitored data, and to then communicate the message of the monitored data by a unidirectional communication without requiring input from a device to which the message of the monitored data is communicated.

9. (Amended) A system comprising:

interface means of a target application means, the interface means for providing a plurality of operations to be selected by a user;

²A marked-up copy of the amendments is attached hereto.

monitoring means for monitoring data of selecting of the plurality of operations of the interface means by the user, and for encoding and storing the monitored data into a log file;

communicating means for receiving the log file of the monitored data, for decoding the stored encoded log file, for creating a message of the monitored data, and for communicating the message of the monitored data by a unidirectional communication without requiring input from a device to which the message of the monitored data is communicated.

17. (Amended) A method of monitoring usage of an interface of a target application, the interface including a plurality of operations to be selected by a user, comprising the steps of:

monitoring data of selecting the plurality of operations of the interface selected by the user;

generating a log file of the monitored data by encoding the monitored data and storing the encoded monitored data into the log file; and

creating a message of the monitored data by reading the encoded monitored data from the log file and decoding the encoded monitored data, and communicating the message of the monitored data by a unidirectional communication without requiring input from a device to which the message of the monitored data is communicated.

25. (Amended) A computer program product comprising:

a computer storage medium and a computer program code mechanism embedded in the computer storage medium for causing a computer to monitor a user's usage of an interface of a target application, the interface comprising a plurality of operations to be selected by a user, comprising:

a first computer code device configured to monitor data of selecting of the plurality of operations of the interface by the user, and to encode and store the monitored data into a log file;

a second computer code device configured to receive the log file of the monitored data, to decode the stored encoded log file, to create a message of the monitored data, and to then communicate the message of the monitored data by a unidirectional communication without requiring input from a device to which the message of the monitored data is communicated.